

Run 2100 10/21/74

Nebraska Weekly Weather & Crop Report



Statistical Reporting Service, USDA
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National Weather Service

Nebraska Department of Agriculture
Division of Agr'l. Statistics
Agricultural Extension Service
of Nebr. College of Agriculture

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Week Ending 10/21/74

WEATHER

Temperatures were above normal over the north and west portions of the State and below normal southeast. Precipitation was rather sparse over the north portion while the south portion averaged less than a half inch.

CROPS

Nebraska farmers and ranchers main activities this past week were harvesting fall crops, moving cattle to corn and milo stubble fields, and beginning fall fieldwork. The weather has been beneficial for field drying of crops, thereby reducing the need for artificial drying in some areas. Some fall fieldwork has started over the State, consisting of chiseling, plowing, and discing.

Nearly the entire week was suitable for fieldwork during our survey period (October 12-18). Topsoil moisture supplies are short in 94% of the counties reporting as of last Friday. Subsoil moisture supplies are short in all of the counties reporting. Moisture is very short and needed in most counties for wheat growth and pastures.

Corn harvest is progressing well ahead of normal over the State. Nearly 45% has been harvested by now, compared to the normal of 24% and 15% a year ago. The south central district reports over 55% harvested. Yields have considerable variation with ranges varying within counties as much as 70 bushels per acre for both dryland and irrigated corn. Silage harvesting is nearing completion.

Sorghum harvest is progressing also at a record rate. To date, nearly 55% has been harvested; normal is 42% and a year ago harvest was 40% complete on this date. Nearly 70% has been harvested in the central district of Nebraska. Reports indicate some milo harvested has a light test weight.

Soybean harvest is in full swing throughout the State with 75% harvested to date compared to the normal of 68% and 45% for a year ago. The northeast district reports close to 90% harvested by now.

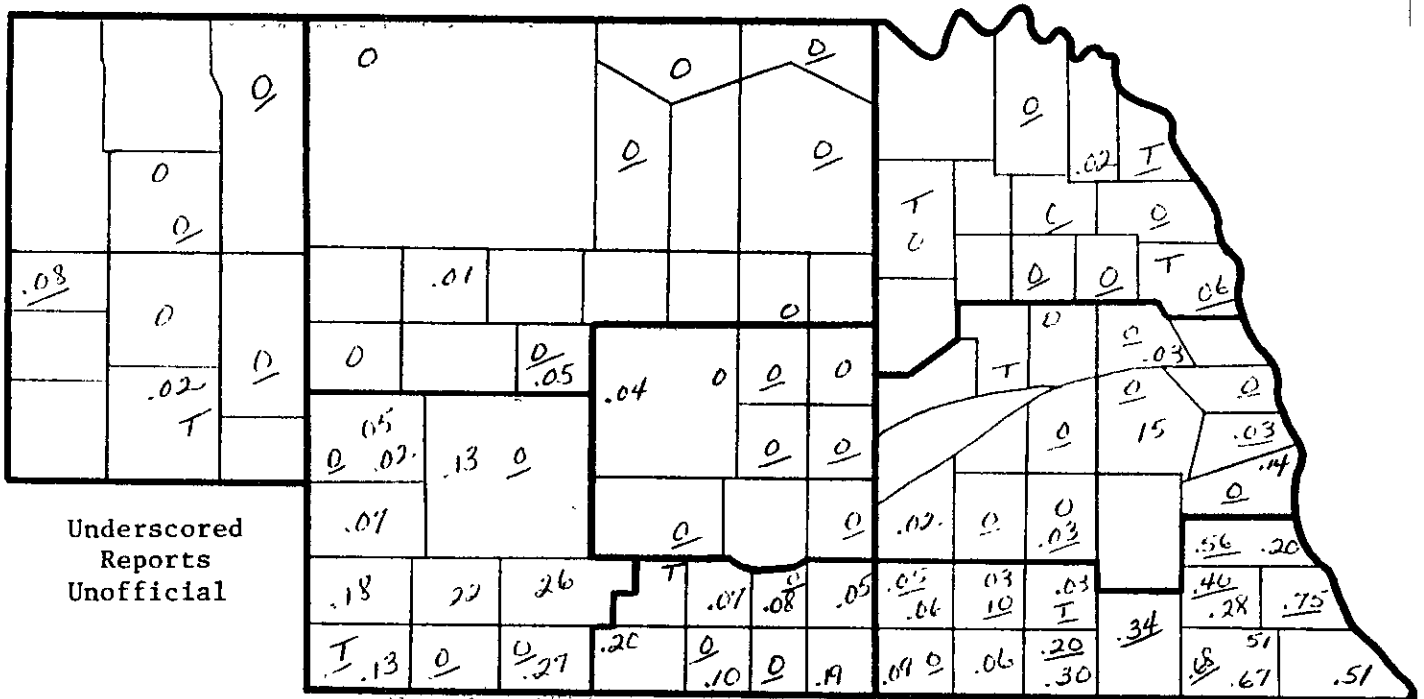
Sugar beet harvest is well underway in western Nebraska. About 50% of the crop has been harvested and yield and sugar content are reported to be good. Dry edible bean harvest is virtually ended in Nebraska.

Wheat condition over the State has been hampered by the dry weather. Of the counties reporting, 42% assess the condition as poor, 43% as fair, and 15% as good. Some counties report spotty stands due to the dryness; others report no sprouting yet. Moisture received in several areas improved the wheat, but more rain is needed to assure adequate growth.

LIVESTOCK

Range and pasture feed supplies are short in 95% of the counties reporting. The dry weather has caused pasture condition to decline rapidly and has also increased the danger of fire. Many ranchers and farmers are now moving cattle from pastures to stalk fields as soon as the fields are available or to areas so they can be fed some form of roughage. Cattle on pasture are being supplemented with hay, silage, or other roughage. Culling is reported in several areas of the State.

PRECIPITATION MAP FOR WEEK ENDING 6:00 A.M. SATURDAY, OCTOBER 19, 1974



TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION DATA FOR WEEK ENDING 6:00 P.M. SUNDAY, OCTOBER 20, 1974

Station		Temperature				Precipitation
		Extremes		Mean	Departure	Total Inches <u>1/</u>
		Max	Min			
NW	Chadron	82	29	54	--	0
	Scottsbluff	82	23	55	+4	0
	Sidney	--	--	--	--	--
NC	Burwell	82	20	54	--	0
	Valentine	85	24	52	+2	0
NE	Norfolk	79	25	52	+1	0
	Sioux City	78	24	52	-2	0
CEN	Grand Island	82	25	54	0	0
EC	Lincoln	83	29	53	-2	0
	Omaha	77	26	52	-4	0
SW	Imperial	82	26	54	--	0
	North Platte	82	16	51	0	0

1/ Precipitation totals not included in map above.

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